

To: Garrison, Geoffrey[Garrison.Geoffrey@epa.gov]
From: DOnofrio, Cris
Sent: Sun 3/22/2015 2:53:06 AM
Subject: Fwd: St. John pesticides incident

::
,,

A tid bit more info that may end up being useful....

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Housenger, Jack" <Housenger.Jack@epa.gov>
Date: March 21, 2015 at 10:44:14 PM EDT
To: "DOnofrio, Cris" <DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: St. John pesticides incident

Glad you ate. Now maybe you can go to sleep.
Usually it's aluminum phosphide that's misused in a house. That's deadly. Sulfur fluoride can be used to fumigate but that needs proper aeration. Can't figure out why they'd use mb.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 21, 2015, at 10:40 PM, DOnofrio, Cris <DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov> wrote:

Jack,

This is good information. Especially the bit about taking a few days to off gas - this fits well with what we know about the current scenario- the family may have been impacted in the condo over a period of 4-5 days following treatment of the living space with methyl bromide...

Thanks a million!

Cris

Ps. I just finished demolishing a roast chicken :)

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 21, 2015, at 10:30 PM, Housenger, Jack <Housenger.Jack@epa.gov> wrote:

Cris, see info below. Basically what I said earlier. Hope you ate. Let me know if you have more questions. Jack.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Dawson, Jeffrey" <Dawson.Jeff@epa.gov>
Date: March 21, 2015 at 10:23:51 PM EDT
To: "Housenger, Jack" <Housenger.Jack@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: St. John pesticides incident

Jack,

Please forward to everyone who needs this.

Structural/space fumigations with methyl bromide always use basically pure material I believe. Historically some products contained low amounts of chloropicrin but these are basically gone.

Current residential fumigations are all basically done with SF. I don't think any methyl bromide uses still exist for residential settings. There are space and commodity uses only for commodities like Chilean grape imports. They could look up the USDA PPQ treatment manual and labels to see exactly if need be. Also, methyl bromide is being tested and has been used vs bioweapons stuff like anthrax so it could be used in those limited circumstances.

Fumigators should be familiar with SCBA and have measurement technology to look at levels in real time as well.

Also, neurological symptoms would be consistent with exposure. They may want to look at clinical measures of blood bromine to verify. That's what they did with the CA Chilean grape incidents. One other thing - residues can take a few days to offgas. I wouldn't let people in right away without aeration and air measures to verify its gone.

Thanks and hope this helps.

My cell is 3016765956 if you need more.

Jeff

Sent from my Windows Phone

From: [Housenger, Jack](#)

Sent: 3/21/2015 9:58 PM
To: [Dawson, Jeffrey](#)
Subject: Fwd: St. John pesticides incident

Can you answer?
And I don't think there are any indoor uses right. That's just sf I think.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "DOnofrio, Cris" <DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov>
Date: March 21, 2015 at 9:53:56 PM EDT
To: "Housenger, Jack" <Housenger.Jack@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: St. John pesticides incident

Hello Jack:

Thanks for getting back to me. A couple of questions might help us to put the pieces of the puzzle together and help with our response options. I have been doing a lot of research but would like to get your input.

- As a pesticide, is methyl bromide always used pure or does it have different formulations and/or concentrations for different pesticide uses?
- What type of personal protective gear does the typical applicator/user (of methyl bromide as a pesticide) use? What I am finding is that one must use an SCBA for all measurable concentrations (due to a lack of warning properties), but I'm having difficulty picturing most exterminators ever using an SCBA. Do you have any knowledge of this?

Thanks,

Cris

-----Original Message-----

From: Housenger, Jack
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 8:57 PM
To: DOnofrio, Cris
Cc: Enck, Judith; Garrison, Geoffrey; Font, Jose
Subject: Re: St. John pesticides incident
Cris, let me know what information you want. Toxicity or legal uses or what?
Jack.
Sent from my iPhone
> On Mar 21, 2015, at 7:09 PM, DOnofrio, Cris <DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov>
wrote:
>
> Judith,

>
> If you don't mind, I'll reach out to Jack now. He may have information that
will help me to support Geoff from here.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Cris
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Enck, Judith
> Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 7:07 PM
> To: Garrison, Geoffrey; DOnofrio, Cris; Housenger, Jack; Font, Jose
> Subject: St. John pesticides incident
>
> Geoff. I reached out to hq. If you need information about toxicity of methyl
bromide, you can contact jack housenger (copied here) who is the head of
the pesticides office in Hq He can get you answers. I told him we may need
info on Sunday and he kindly agreed to assist. On Sunday I will be on the
plane from 8 am until around noon when I land in st Thomas. I will check in
with you Sunday afternoon. Feel free to email or call me anytime Tx! Judith
>
> Sent from my iPhone